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Their isolation in the center of the desert resembles that of those South Sea Islanders among whom similar reminiscences of prehistoric ages have been preserved. But the Tuareg are the only example of a white population living as nearly as this under neolithic conditions; they are the men of Cro-magnon stepped forth from their cavern.

The archaism of their institutions forms a striking contrast with their high intellectual qualities. They have especially a highly developed geographical instinct. They answer geographical questions willingly and clearly, and illustrate their answers by drawing diagrams in the sand, so that they have often acted as competent guides to the explorers of their country. In Bissuel's book on the Adrar-Ahnet Mts., for instance, large parts were written from the dictation of a Tuareg captive in Algiers, and the map which accompanies that book is the reproduction of a relief map made by that same Tuareg during his captivity. This map was the only foundation, from 1885 to 1905 for the cartography of that country; even now, with our increased knowledge of the latter, it is, although imperfect, tolerably correct, and considering the circumstances under which it was made, it must be called marvelously good. The knowledge of the Tuareg, too, of the oases and watering places is so extensive and accurate that without the information obtained from them the exploration of the Sahara might even to-day be more imperfect, and include greater risks, than that of the Polar countries. To win that intelligent tribe for the service of the French would be a great step toward the civilization of the desert.

Of the Trans-Saharan Railroad, too, the author says a few words. Without feeling as enthusiastic over the project as some of his literary colleagues do, he is perfectly convinced, not only that such a road is possible, but also that the national as well as international advantages to be derived from it would be large enough to justify its construction.

M. K. GENTHE.

Kamerun als Kolonie und Missionsfeld. Von P. Steiner. Verlag der Basler Missionsbuchhandlung. Basel, 1909.

The little volume is only of missionary interest. It tells the history of the work of the different protestant missions in that country, especially of the Basel mission. The geographical part is not original, and the map places the missionary stations so much in the foreground that it has little value for general purposes. The index contains a list of literature on Cameroon, which, though not complete, has several references which may not be generally known.

M. K. GENTHE.

ASIA

An Illustrated Guide to the Federated Malay States. Editor, Cuthbert Woodvillè Harrison, Malay Civil Service. 333 pp., map in pocket, illustrations and appendices. The Malay States Development Agency, London, 1911. 2s. 6d. 6½ x 4½.

This excellent little book describes the Malay Peninsula from north to south, from Penang to Singapore. The region seems to open an attractive new field to the globe trotter. The book says there is no unrest in Malaya. The country is quiet, the people content, and the town streets and country roads are perfectly safe. The people who are now called the aborigines, that is, the Negrito and Semi-Negrito wild tribes who inhabit the jungles, are the first inhabitants of the peninsula known to its history. But there existed before the Negrito, the pre-